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N O R T H A F R I C A

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LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI WELCOMES POLISARIO GROUP 15 OCTOBER

FBIS-MEA-76-203

[Editorial Report JN]

Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic at 1832 GMT on 15 October carries a recording of Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi's speech delivered 15 October in Darna on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of Al-Gargah battle against the Italians. Most of the 24-minute speech deals with the inauguration of a new powerstation in Darna, opened to honor the "Martyrs of Darna" who fell in Al-Gargah battle. He reviews achievements in supplying electricity to villages and says the Libyan Government plans to link all Libyan cities and villages with a single power network.

Concluding his speech, Al-Qadhdhafi says: "I would like to salute the leaders of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic who are with us now. [applause] I salute Brother Muhammad Abd al-Azis and [words indistinct] secretary general of the POLISARIO, Brother Muhammad al Amin, the prime minister of the SDAR; and Brother Bashir Mustafa al-Gabi, the colleague of the late Munir al-Gabi and member of the organizational committee."

Al-Qadhdhafi continues: "It is known that El Sagua El Hamra and Rio de Oro was the only region after Ceuta and Melilla still occupied by Spain. This was the region that remained in the hands of Spanish colonialism for hundred of years. In 1972 or the beginning of 1973, the Libyan people pledged to support their brothers in El Sagua El Hamra and Rio de Oro in their armed struggle. These young people, many of whom were martyred, forced Spanish colonialism to leave El Sagua El Hamra and Rio de Oro by force of arms. This was done under the leadership of the POLISARIO and with the sacrifices of the Saharan people." [applause]

AL-QADHDHAFI VISITS CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

For a report on the arrival of Chairman Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi in the Central African Republic on 17 October, see the Central Africa section of the 18 October Sub-Saharan Africa DAILY REPORT.

JALLUD RECEIVES FRENCH ENVOY, MESSAGE FROM GISCARD

Tripoli ARNA in English 0833 GMT 17 Oct 76 LD

[Text] Tripoli, October 17, ARNA--Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, RCC member and prime minister, received here yesterday the emissary of the French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing. During the interview the French president's emissary conveyed a message to Major Jallud from President Giscard d'Estaing.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI INTERVIEWED ON RED SEA, AFRO-ARAB RELATIONS

Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1715 GMT 15 Oct 76 LD/EA

[Interview with President Numayri by Saudi newspaper AL YAMAMAH and appearing in 15 October edition of Khartoum newspaper AL-AYYAM; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Following the Jidda meeting among yourself, King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Azis and President as-Sadat, the features of a political and economic region, namely the Red Sea, have emerged. What steps will be taken to realize this? What will the effect be on Arab and international strategy if its achievement becomes possible?

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[Answer] I disagree when you say that the features of a political and economic region, namely the Red Sea, have begun to appear. The words "features of a region" imply that the region previously did not exist. They also mean that this region is a child of circumstances and could either be temporary or permanent.

The Red Sea and the states bordering it have long constituted a natural grouping. The economic and political conformity of this region has existed for a long time. The Jidda meeting merely confirmed what already existed. Its objective was to define the steps that had to be taken to maintain conformity, cooperation and coordination in a well-defined strategy in the service of the Arab nation and other nations as well. This conformity and cooperation has existed during all the battles waged by the Arab nation. Sudan constituted a rear area [umq] for Egypt during the 1967 and 1973 wars. Saudi Arabia was an extension of the fateful war arena on the Egyptian front in the long struggle against the Zionist enemy. The conformity has been support and strength for Saudi Arabia and Sudan in facing treacherous conspiracies.

If the Red Sea has become one of the new hotbeds of conflict between the large states, or if the Red Sea is a big gain for communism, there is no doubt that the responsibility of the Red Sea states goes beyond a limited vision. It extends to all future aspects.

The identity of the Red Sea is no longer a subject of debate or discussion. This places great burdens on the region within the framework of the common and continuing struggle against the enemy. This enemy has usurped Arab territory and looks forward with insolence and vanity not only to the retention of the occupied lands, but also to further expansion and usurpation.

There is no doubt that the consolidation and strengthening of the states of the Arab region of the Red Sea economic and political [word indistinct], as I have said, will have a definite and far-reaching effect on international strategy, and not only Arab strategy. We shall block the path of communist infiltration in the Red Sea and insure the industrial and agricultural development of the states of the area. We will build up an armed Arab force to insure the protection of the region and its borders, and we guarantee effective participation in the process of exterminating the state of usurpation and (?violence). We are all working toward this future.

[Question] Concerning the Arab summit that will be held in Cairo, does Sudan have a working paper it will submit to the conference? How does Sudan view Afro-Arab relations. In what ways, in the Sudanese view, can these relations be promoted and more firmly established?

[Answer] I do not believe that Afro-Arab relations are passing through a period of coolness, as you put it. Afro-Arab relations are passing through a period of political calm. In other words, they are passing through a period of careful study with the aim of promoting cooperation and coordination. Perhaps this is why they have not come to the fore recently. I have always believed that the destiny that has brought the Arab nation together is the same one that governs the African continent. Both the Arab nation and the African continent are in the same situation. We both face the greed of the covetous and the dreams of adventurers. They are experiencing the same problems and circumstances.

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I believe that Afro-Arab solidarity at present is a wise goal. We should work for it in the interests of the two peoples. Indeed, I believe that the Arab states have a momentous role which we should not [words indistinct] relax in dealing with them because we do not and cannot forget the active and glorious role played by the African continent during the glorious October war.

The economic, political and social cooperation between the peoples of the Arab nation and the peoples of the African continent should crystallize along clear lines to promote agricultural and industrial investment in Africa. In fact, this should be covered and defined by studies in the industrial areas. It should even reflect on social life in both regions.

[Question] On the wave of hijackings of Arab aircraft and the new methods of terrorism: Do you not think it would be fitting to develop a common Arab action to wage war against them? Has Sudan any particular view on this?

[Answer] Sudan has always condemned the barbaric practice of publicizing a particular cause by hijacking aircraft, whether Arab or not. It is neither acceptable nor reasonable that a protest for a particular cause should result in the killing of other people. [words indistinct] through random killing, the legitimacy of any cause is nullified. If the wave of hijacking Arab aircraft is evident, I do not believe it will continue for long.

Concerning the Egyptian aircraft that was hijacked the reason for its hijacking was not the announcement of an honorable stand or even the demanding of legitimate rights. It was simply a continuation of the desperate terrorist wave led by that ill-fated colonel. It was done to seek the release of other terrorists whose object was murder and whose inclination is sabotage.

If there is [words indistinct] solution and common Arab action to fight this phenomenon, then I do not believe it beyond our capacity to isolate terrorism or to encircle its champions. The position of terrorism is well-known. The exporters of terrorism are notorious and rejected.

[Question] Are Sudanese-Saudi relations developing continuously? What is the future of these relations?

[Answer] As you said, Sudanese-Saudi relations are developing continuously. The hopes of the two peoples and their struggle for a brilliant tomorrow are the bedrock of the development of these relations. Relations between Sudan and the people of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom have existed from time immemorial. They are relations of religion and language, of a common destiny and a common goal. They are unshakable and firm relations.

There is, for example, the Ad-Damazin project for agricultural and animal production. This extends over an area of 500,000 feddan and its implementation has begun. Its agricultural and animal yield will contribute to the self-sufficiency of Sudan and the Saudi kingdom. There is another project in the White Nile area covering 100,000 feddan. The object of this project is to produce enough rice to cover the Saudi kingdom's demand for this food commodity. This is because Sudan has now attained self-sufficiency in this commodity through the production of the Gezira scheme, projects in the White Nile area and the southern region.

There are many other projects currently being studied by the private sectors of the two countries. There is no doubt that the brilliant future of our two countries, as two fraternal peoples, has more hope for the prosperity of our two peoples and for their progress.

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HA'AREZ ASSESSES BROWN'S REMARKS, U.S. POLICY

Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 18 Oct 76 p 9 TA

[Dan Margalit commentary: "Israel's Status in the Eyes of the Pentagon"]

[Excerpts] The remarks of U.S. [Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman] George Brown, which are likely to induce a storm when they are published, go deep into the roots of the question about Israel's status in the eyes of the Pentagon. The U.S. security establishment has been troubled, especially since the Yom Kippur war, by the question of whether Israel is a desired ally or a burden which the United States inevitably has to put up with.

These assessments do not change overnight. They certainly do not change everytime Brown opens his mouth but they do undergo a reexamination once in a while according to the circumstances.

As a matter of fact, only one agreement prevails in the U.S. security establishment: If Israel were to collapse politically and militarily this could constitute a hard blow to America's interests and hence Washington must do its best to prevent this. Supporters of this view say that Israel is widely known as a clear ally of the United States. It is completely dependent on the United States for help and if the United States is not powerful enough to prevent its fall, who else in the world will be able to rely on the American deterrent?

That is the "narrow" view. It is current especially in the Arabist circles in the administration, but it is certainly not the only view. Other views are in circulation. The Israeli presence in the most desirable corner in the Middle East is founded on a great military ability. It maintains the regional balance. It is true that in the fifties and sixties it was the very element that caused the Soviets to enter the region. Yet now Washington's hopes of restricting Soviet influence in the Middle East are dependent solely on Israel's cooperating with American political moves. In this context, the words of the voluble General Brown do not reflect the views of a strong-minded general alone. He represents a whole school of thinking which is inconvenient for Israel. His views are not one man's views.

General Brown has an anti-Jewish past. He may "finally go" because of his recent remarks, but the problems facing Israel in its running dialog with the Pentagon will remain. They are even being aggravated against the background of the increasing objection in the U.S. security establishment to supplying Israel with the more sophisticated equipment now in stockpiles and laboratories.

U.S. DEPUTY DEFENSE SECRETARY CLEMENTS ARRIVES

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Oct 76 TA

[Text] The American deputy secretary of defense, William Clements, arrived in Israel this afternoon aboard an American Air Force plane accompanied by a large entourage of military advisers and experts. The delegation comprises three generals, an admiral and experts in weapons and equipment procurement.

Clements told correspondents that he will hold highly important talks in Israel, mainly concerning equipment, procurement and weapons that Israel is to receive. He pointed out that the Pentagon is now considering the influence the new shipments of weapons will have on U.S. arms deployment and that the shipments would leave for Israel accordingly. He added that most of the items would be supplied in 1 or 2 years time and some items would arrive only after another 3 years. The American deputy defense secretary will meet with the prime minister, the defense minister and other personalities.